

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

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Mexico

Livestock and Products

Mexico BSE Update (Seventh Edition)

2004

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Report Highlights:

Mexico has again modified its BSE ban, this time to allow imports of sheep meat and sheep heads from animals under 12 months. In addition, import requirements for boneless marinated beef from cattle less than 30 months of age have been established.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Mexico [MX1] [MX]

Mexico Expands List of Beef Products Eligible for Importation

The Government of Mexico (GOM) recently established import requirements for meat and heads from sheep less than 12 months of age. At this point, the only restrictions on sheep are for sheep for breeding. Sheep for slaughter have been approved for some time. In addition, in response to inquiries from U.S. companies, the GOM has established import requirements for boneless marinated beef from cattle less than 30 months of age.

The BSE Banned List

The following products are currently banned by SAGARPA.

Live cattle
Bone-in meat
Boneless meat from cattle 30 months of age or older
Bovine offal and viscera other than those currently authorized
*Bovine meat preparations
Products derived from non-protein-free tallow
Protein-free tallow fit for human consumption
Gelatin and collagen prepared from bone
Ruminant meal

*While bovine meat preparations are currently banned. SAGARPA will consider establishing import requirements for processed beef preparations if the products do not differ substantially from the raw products that are currently authorized. For example, a company that produces a marinated or breaded boneless beef product can submit a request to have a set of import requirements established. Once established, the requirements will be available for any company to use. Companies should work with their importers and be prepared to provide documentation about their product composition and expect to wait a few weeks for approval.

Products Exempt from the BSE Ban

The following products are exempt from the BSE ban.

Boneless beef from cattle under 30 months of age Marinated boneless beef from cattle under 30 months of age Veal de-boned or bone-in

Hearts, kidneys, tongue and lips from cattle under 30 months of age

Diaphragm and trimmings from cattle under 30 months of age

Tripe from cattle under 30 months of age

Boneless meat, carcasses, viscera, and heads from sheep under 12 months of age

Boneless meat, carcasses, and viscera from goats under 12 months of age

Liver

Milk

Dairy products

Semen

Embryos

Protein-free tallow not fit for animal consumption

Dicalcium phosphate (DCP)

Skins and hides

^{**}Live sheep for breeding (added since the initial ban)

^{**}A lifting of this ban is expected soon.

Gelatin and collagen obtained from hides and skins *Pet Food (see MX4040 for more details)

*The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and SAGARPA recently agreed on simpler procedures for notifying SAGARPA concerning APHIS certifications of U.S. rendering plants supplying pet food manufacturers. The agreement will eliminate the need for SAGARPA to directly inspect plants and meets a May 4 deadline for resolving these issues.

Secretariat of Health Has Its Own Ban

A listing of the Secretariat of Health's banned products of bovine origin follows:

Hormones

Insulin

Enzymes for digestive therapy

Gel capsules made from cartilage or bone

Sutures

Laboratory growth media

Bile extracts

Gelatin (conflict with SAGARPA)

Any products regulated by the Secretariat of Health made from Specified Risk Materials

Food supplements

Blood serum

Common ingredients in beauty products

Dehydrated broth (subject to prior notice)

Instant soups (subject to prior notice)